HE WAS TRAPPED BY ANIMALS
IN THE CENTER OF TOWN!
AND WHY NOT! IT WAS THEIR TOWN!
DC
KAMANDI
20¢
NO. 8
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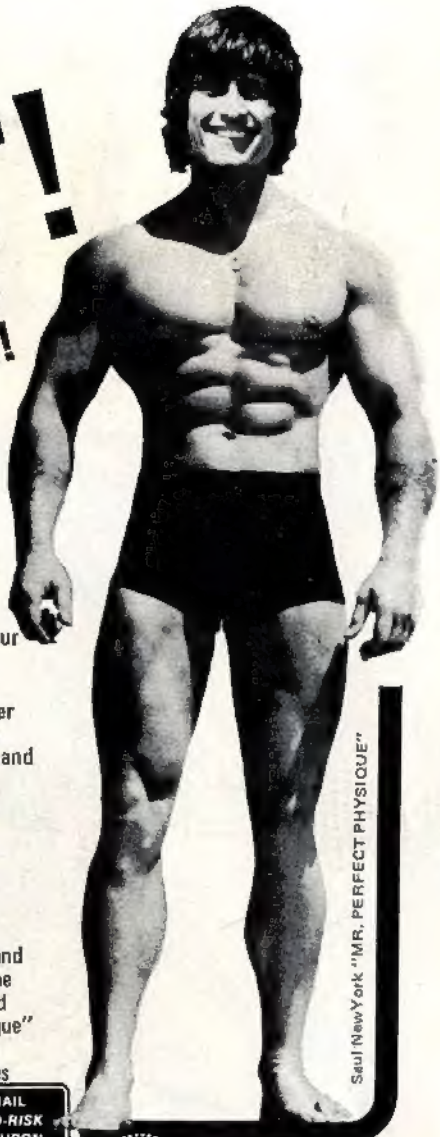
KAMANDI
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE LAST BOY ON EARTH!
K-405

GAIN WEIGHT!

Be Muscular and Admired!!



Yes, you too can have a body like "Mr. Perfect Physique" Saul NewYork (pictured above). He followed our HERCULES II Muscle Building Course for just a few short weeks and gained 3" on each arm, 4" on his chest and beefed up his legs, back and stomach muscles until he reached his present Super Build – a body good enough to win him the World's coveted "Mr. Perfect Physique" title.

Yes, our Muscle Building Secrets contained in HERCULES II can transform your present body into the kind of handsome rippling muscularity that other guys respect and all girls 'flip' over.

It doesn't matter if you own the skinniest, flabbiest body in the world - whether you are tall or short young or not so young, you really can muscle up instantly by using our easy to follow step-by-step HERCULES II plan. It's entirely safe and so easy to do next to other courses. It will amaze you! There are no gimmicks, gadgets or costly weights to buy. Just simple, yet terrifyingly effective steps to muscledom. It only takes a few minutes a day of your time.

Just how big you build your body is entirely up to you. 10, 20, 30 pounds of solid muscle! You can do it! In fact any guy in normal health can do it.

JUST IMAGINE – IN A FEW SHORT WEEKS FROM NOW YOU WILL BE ABLE TO FLEX THOSE BULGING BICEPS AND YOUR FRIENDS WILL GASP IN ASTONISHMENT. Pick up a 6 inch spike, bend it effortlessly and hand it to your buddy. Invite him to straighten it. Knowing average guys, he won't be able to budge it, however red-faced he gets trying. Yes! Our New secret method can change your whole life. Why not follow in the steps of "Mr. Perfect Physique" Remember the sooner you send the order form at the bottom of this page, the sooner you will be helping yourself to a lion's share of rippling, healthy muscles bursting with power and explosive energy.

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"In 3 weeks I have put 1½" on my arms, 3½" on my chest and lost flab from my waist. My stomach muscles can now take any punch" S. Johnston

"I have gained 22 pounds of muscle in 30 days – I have put 4" on my arms – A million thanks to your New Hercules II program." Bill Canning

"I was a skinny weakling – I just can't describe how much your course has done for me. The results have been amazing" P.G. Roberts

"I feel great – Look 100% better. Can lift my father above my head" J. Scott

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Put an end to your skinny body now! Send just 25¢ coin for our Free Plan showing how you can get started with HERCULES II. You have nothing to lose but your weakness!

The First Step to a stronger more muscular YOU starts here!!

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Bodybuilding Center.

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Sirs

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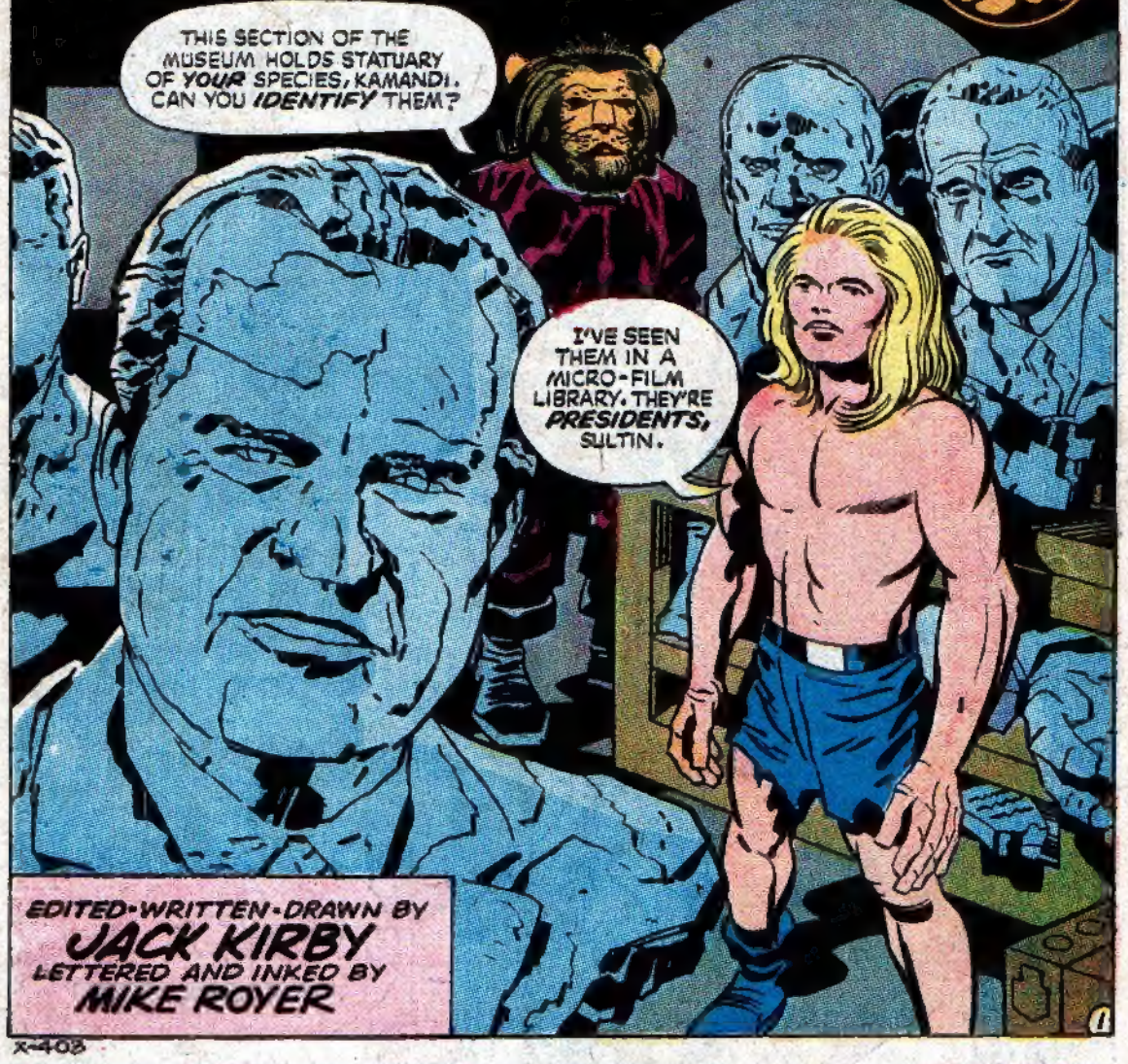
IN THE WORLD OF KAMANDI, ALL THAT WE KNOW HAS *CHANGED!* FOLLOWING AN EARTH-SHAKING *NATURAL* DISASTER, MAN HAS BEEN REDUCED TO ANIMAL STATUS---AND THE BEASTS HAVE TAKEN THE ROAD ONCE TROD BY HUMANS. SOMEWHERE, IN A METROPOLIS BUILT BY *LIONS*, A ROOM FILLED WITH ANCIENT ARTIFACTS IS EXAMINED BY *SULTIN* OF THE LION RANGERS AND---

KAMANDI

THE LAST BOY ON EARTH

CHAPTER ONE


THIS SECTION OF THE MUSEUM HOLDS STATUARY OF *YOUR* SPECIES, KAMANDI. CAN YOU *IDENTIFY* THEM?
I'VE SEEN THEM IN A MICRO-FILM LIBRARY. THEY'RE *PRESIDENTS*, SULTIN.

EDITED·WRITTEN·DRAWN BY
JACK KIRBY
LETTERED AND INKED BY
MIKE ROYER

X-402

KAMANDI, THE LAST BOY ON EARTH, Vol. 2, No. 8, Aug., 1973. Published monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 909 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Carmine Infantino, Publisher, Jack Kirby, Editor, Steve Sherman, Assistant Editor, Sol Harrison, Production Manager, Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. Copyright © 1973 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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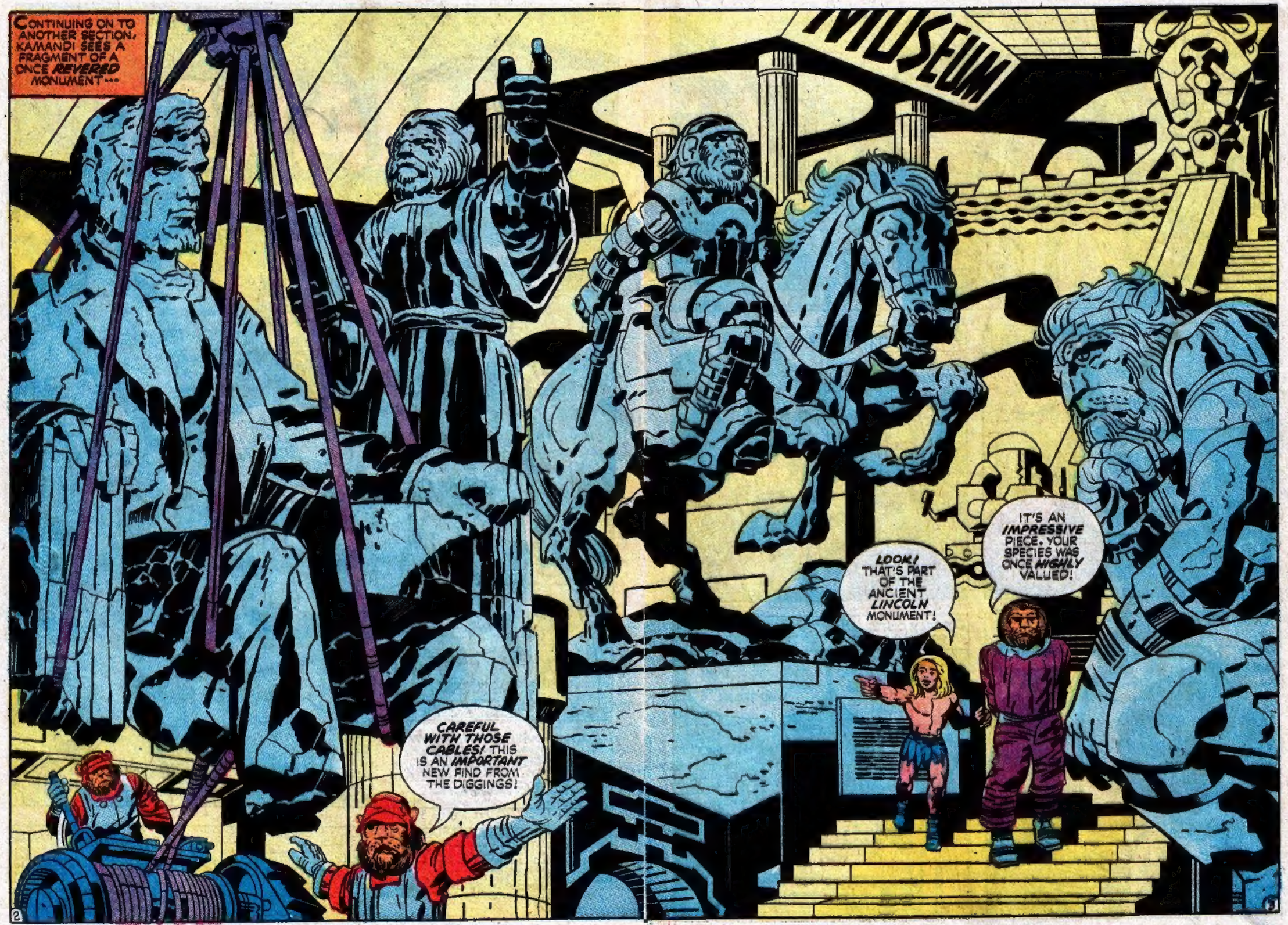
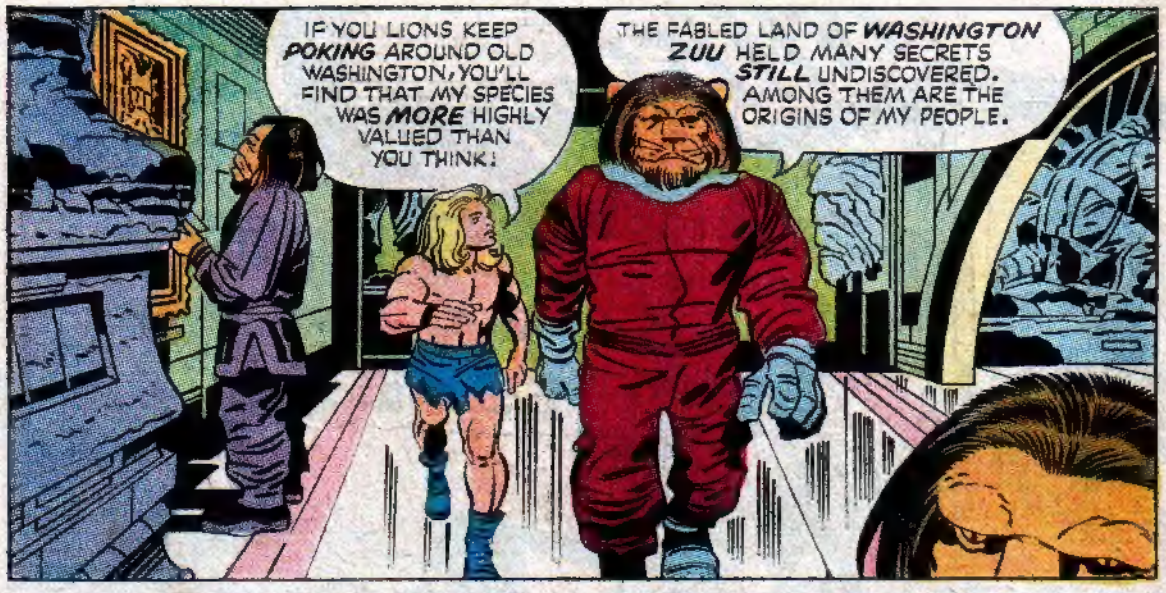
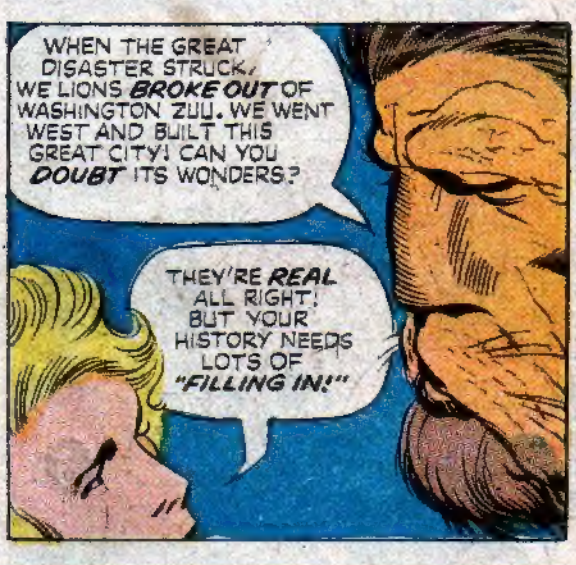
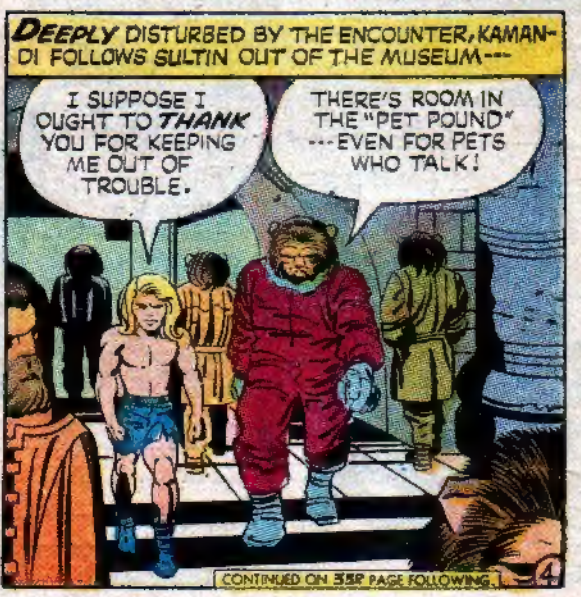

CONTINUING ON TO ANOTHER SECTION, KAMANDI SEES A FRAGMENT OF A ONCE REVERED MONUMENT...
MUSEUM
CAREFUL WITH THOSE CABLES! THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NEW FIND FROM THE DIGGINGS!
LOOK! THAT'S PART OF THE ANCIENT LINCOLN MONUMENT!
IT'S AN IMPRESSIVE PIECE. YOUR SPECIES WAS ONCE HIGHLY VALUED!
2


IF YOU LIONS KEEP POKING AROUND OLD WASHINGTON, YOU'LL FIND THAT MY SPECIES WAS MORE HIGHLY VALUED THAN YOU THINK!
THE FABLED LAND OF WASHINGTON ZUU HELD MANY SECRETS STILL UNDISCOVERED. AMONG THEM ARE THE ORIGINS OF MY PEOPLE.

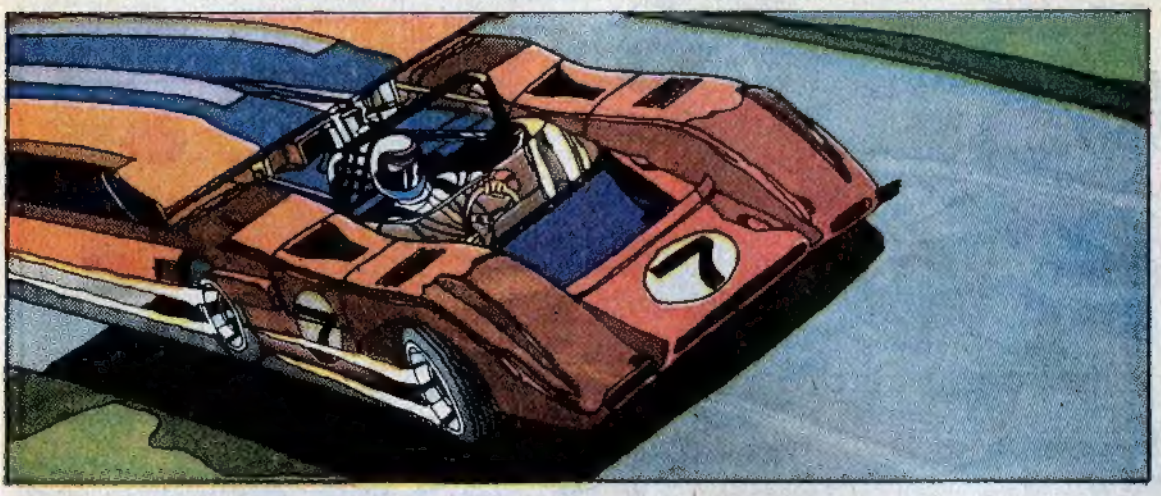

WHEN THE GREAT DISASTER STRUCK, WE LIONS BROKE OUT OF WASHINGTON ZUU. WE WENT WEST AND BUILT THIS GREAT CITY! CAN YOU DOUBT ITS WONDERS?
THEY'RE REAL ALL RIGHT! BUT YOUR HISTORY NEEDS LOTS OF "FILLING IN!"

SUDDENLY---
NO PETS ALLOWED IN HERE, RANGER! WHY, HE ISN'T EVEN WEARING A TAG!

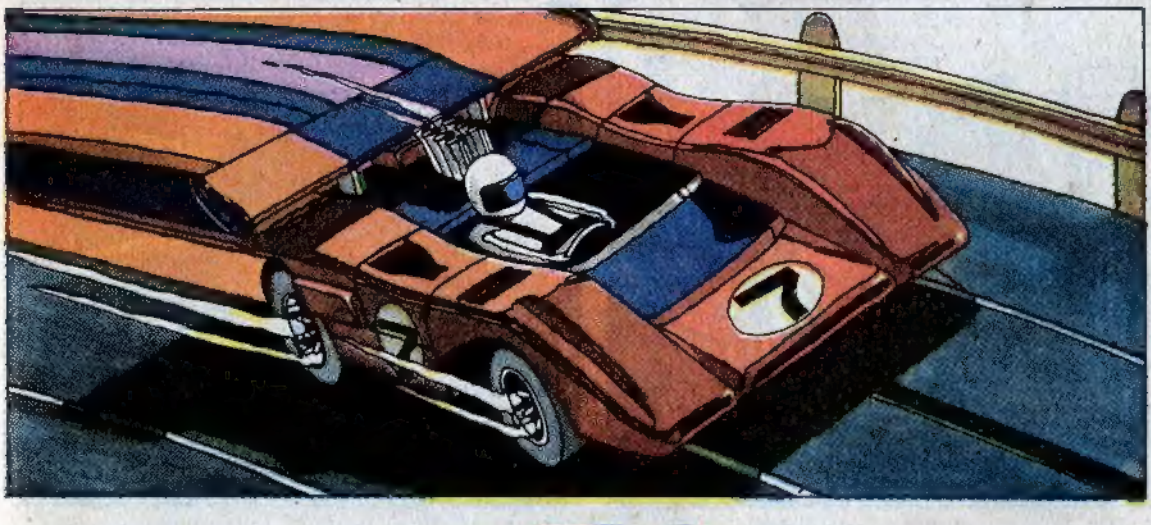
LISTEN, YOU---! I'LL--
MMPHH!
HEH! HEH! HE'S A BIT SPIRITED, BUT HE'S A GOOD PET, GUARD.
JUST GET HIM OUT OF HERE, RIGHT NOW!


DEEPLY DISTURBED BY THE ENCOUNTER, KAMANDI FOLLOWS SULTIN OUT OF THE MUSEUM---
I SUPPOSE I OUGHT TO THANK YOU FOR KEEPING ME OUT OF TROUBLE.
THERE'S ROOM IN THE "PET POUND" ---EVEN FOR PETS WHO TALK!
CONTINUED ON 35P PAGE FOLLOWING.
4

Peter Revson drives this car.



You can drive this one.



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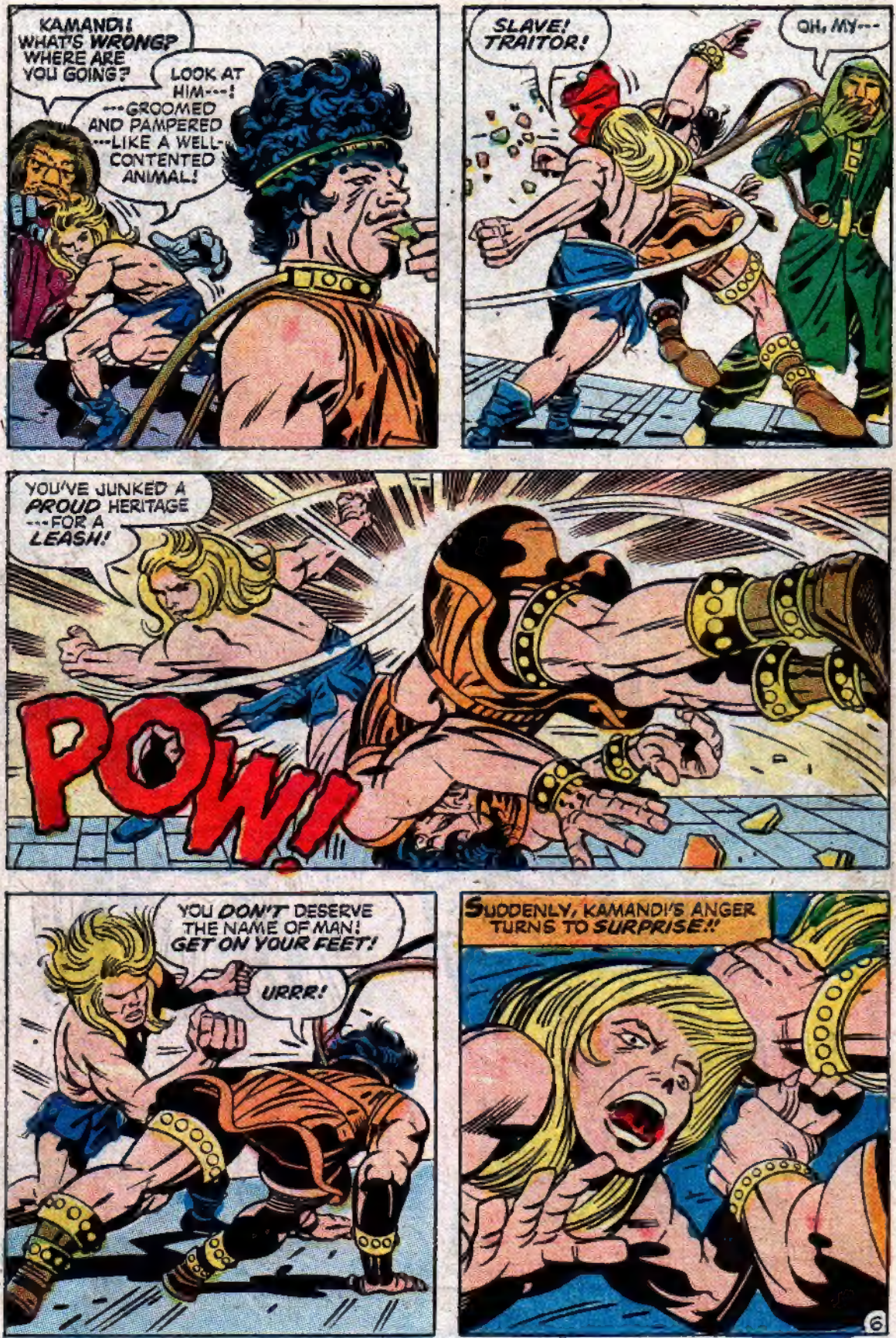
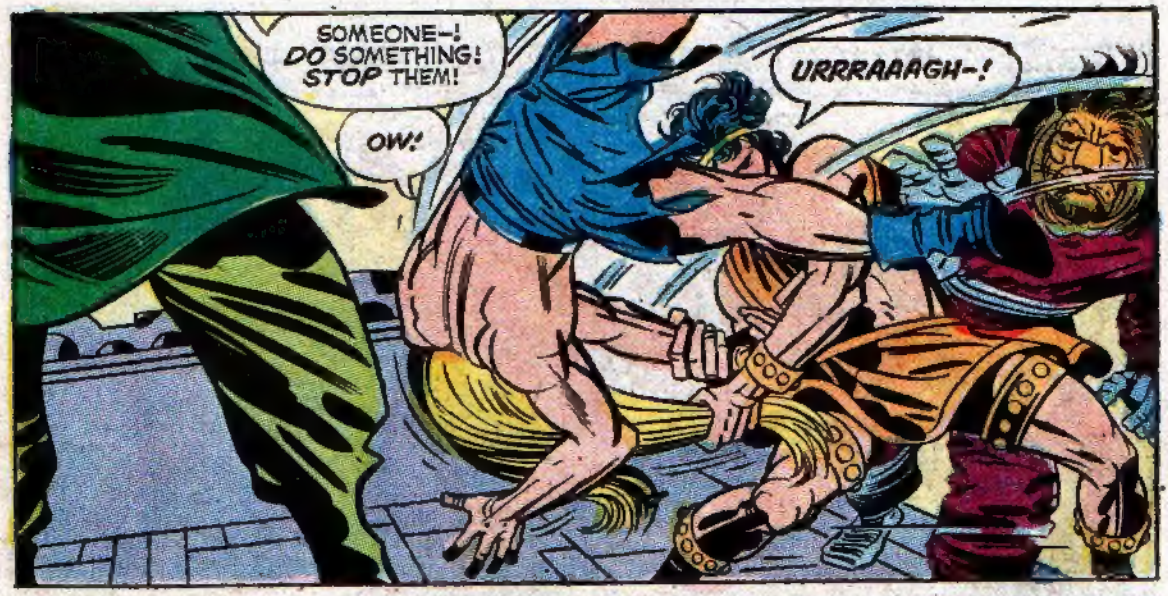
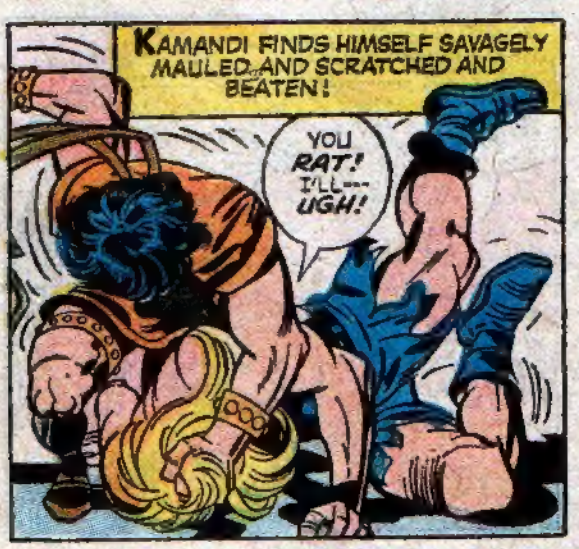
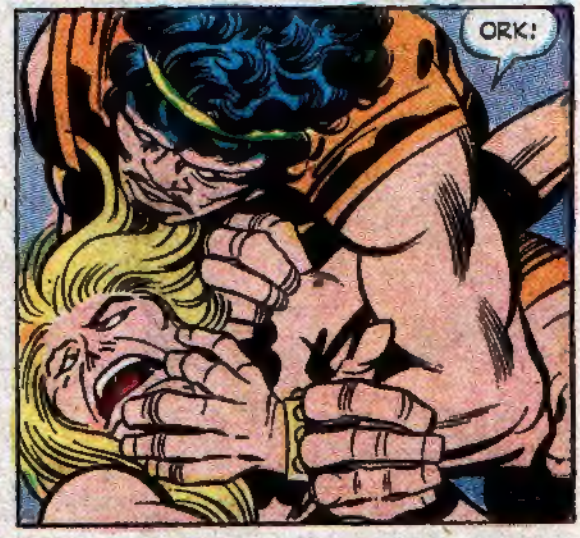
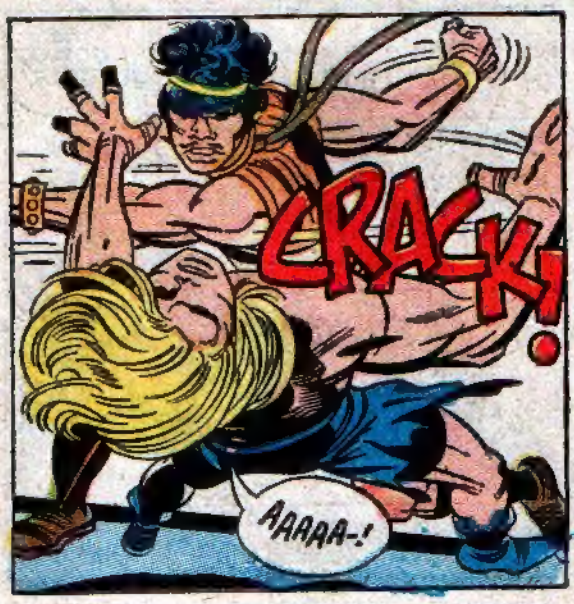
BEYOND REASON
CHAPTER TWO
EAT YOUR CANDY, PET---
THERE, SEE HIM? WHY CAN'T YOU BEHAVE AS WELL AS HE DOES-?
WHA---!!? HE'S ON A LEASH!!
5

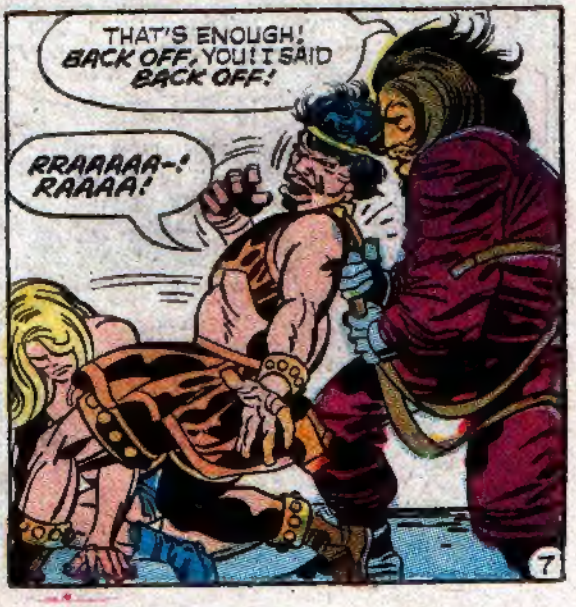

KAMANDI! WHAT'S WRONG? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
LOOK AT HIM---! ---GROOMED AND PAMPERED ---LIKE A WELL-CONTENTED ANIMAL!
SLAVE! TRAITOR!
OH, MY---
YOU'VE JUNKED A PROUD HERITAGE ---FOR A LEASH!
POW!
YOU DON'T DESERVE THE NAME OF MAN! GET ON YOUR FEET!
URRR!
SUDDENLY, KAMANDI'S ANGER TURNS TO SURPRISE!!
6


SOMEONE-! DO SOMETHING! STOP THEM!
OW!
URRRAAAGH-!


KAMANDI FINDS HIMSELF SAVAGELY MAULED AND SCRATCHED AND BEATEN!
YOU RAT! I'LL--- UGH!


ORK!


CRACK!
AAAAA-!


THAT'S ENOUGH! BACK OFF, YOU! I SAID BACK OFF!
RRAAAAA-! RAAAA!

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHO STARTED THIS RUCKUS?
IT'S OVER, OFFICER! NO HARM DONE...
YOU LITTLE FOOL! YOU TANGLED WITH A SECURITY PET! HE'S TRAINED TO KILL!
WHERE'D YOU PICK UP THIS PET, RANGER? HE LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THOSE WILD STRAYS!
OH, NO, OFFICER. HE'S REALLY VERY GENTLE. WOULDN'T HURT A FLY!
DON'T ALIBI FOR ME! I'M A MAN!...DO YOU HEAR ME? A MAN!
I'LL SHOW YOU...!
POK!
HEY! HE KICKED THE WEAPON OUT OF MY HAND!
HE'S GOT MY RIFLE!
KAMANDI! STOP IT!
CONTINUED ON THE PAGE FOLLOWING
8

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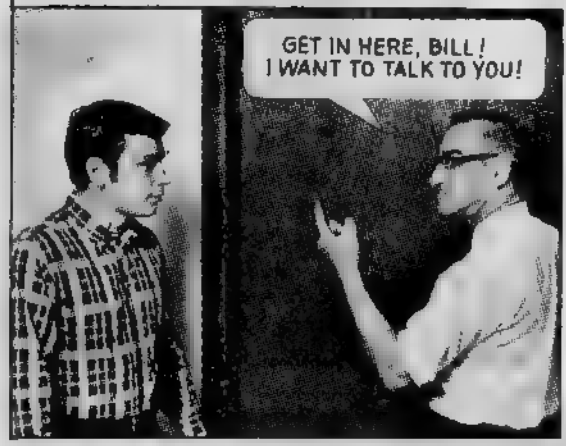
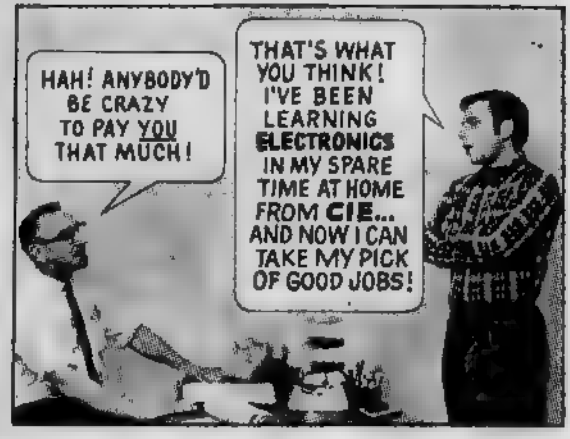
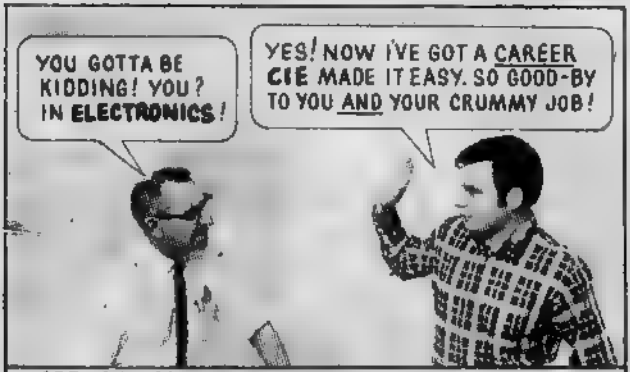
The day Bill told off his boss




HAH! ANYBODY'D BE CRAZY TO PAY YOU THAT MUCH!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! I'VE BEEN LEARNING ELECTRONICS IN MY SPARE TIME AT HOME FROM CIE... AND NOW I CAN TAKE MY PICK OF GOOD JOBS!



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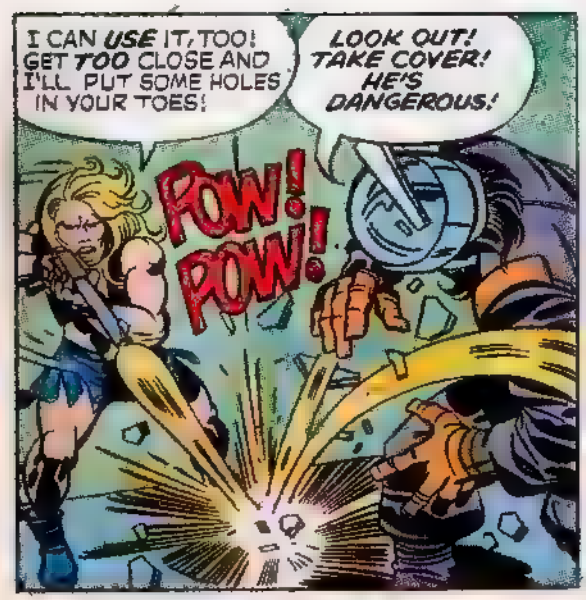
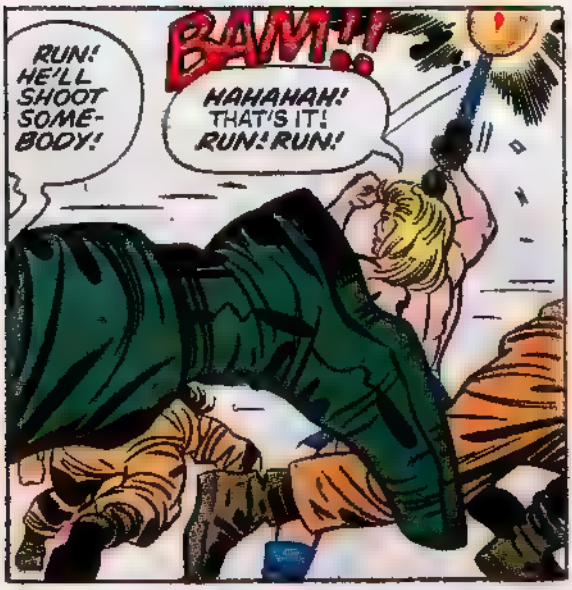
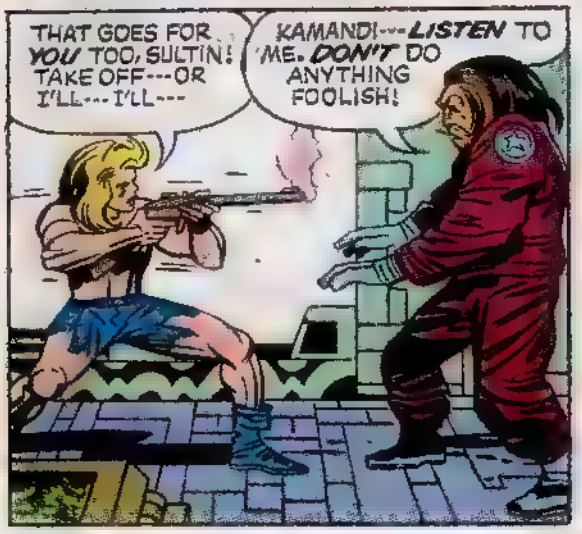
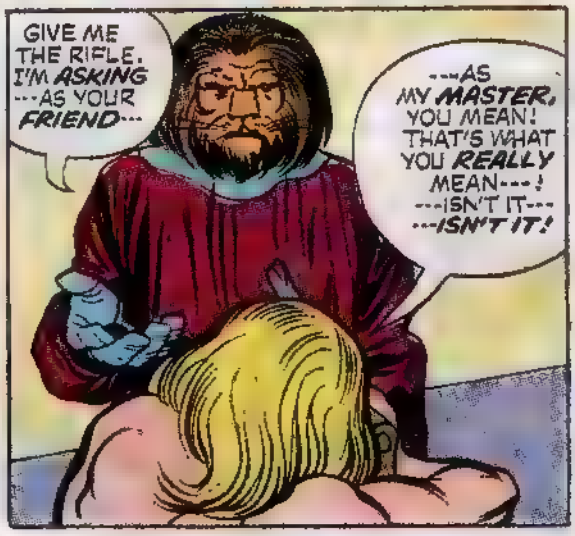
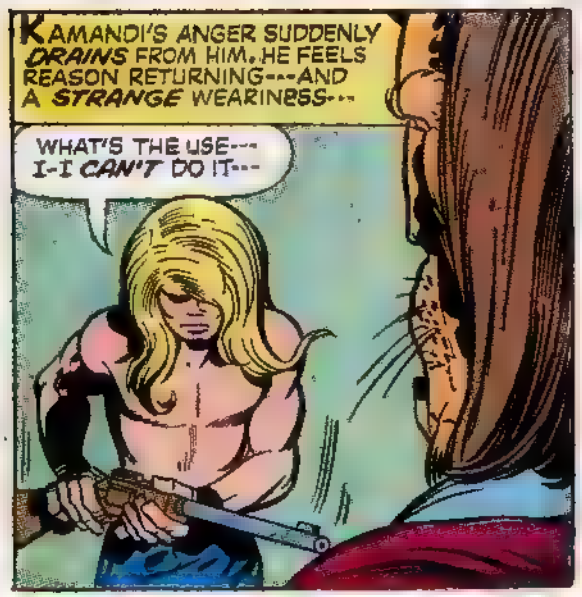
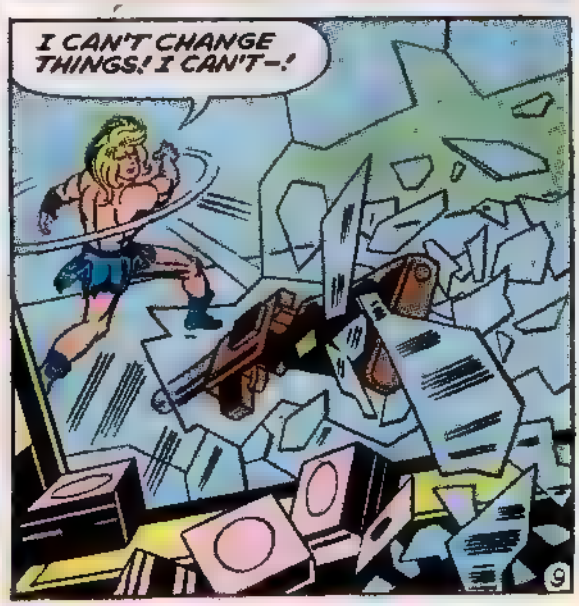

I CAN USE IT, TOO! GET TOO CLOSE AND I'LL PUT SOME HOLES IN YOUR TOES!
LOOK OUT! TAKE COVER! HE'S DANGEROUS!
POW! POW!


RUN! HE'LL SHOOT SOME-BODY!
BAM!!
HAHAHAH! THAT'S IT! RUN! RUN!


THAT GOES FOR YOU TOO, SULTIN! TAKE OFF---OR I'LL--- I'LL---
KAMANDI---LISTEN TO ME. DON'T DO ANYTHING FOOLISH!


GIVE ME THE RIFLE. I'M ASKING ---AS YOUR FRIEND---
---AS MY MASTER, YOU MEAN! THAT'S WHAT YOU REALLY MEAN---! ---ISN'T IT--- ---ISN'T IT!


KAMANDI'S ANGER SUDDENLY DRAINS FROM HIM. HE FEELS REASON RETURNING---AND A STRANGE WEARINESS---
WHAT'S THE USE--- I-I CAN'T DO IT---


I CAN'T CHANGE THINGS! I CAN'T-!

SULTIN WATCHES THE BOY BURY HIS HEAD IN HIS HANDS. HE LISTENS TO THE SOBS OF TORMENT. NATURE SEEMS TO HAVE PLAYED A TRAGIC TRICK. IT HAS PRODUCED A SINGLE, SUPER-INTELLIGENT ANIMAL---
POOR, LITTLE DEVIL. I WISH I KNEW HOW TO HELP HIM---
IT'S JUST TOO UNCANNY. HE TALKS AND REASONS--- ALMOST AS WELL AS A LION.
I-I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING FAST! I CAN'T LET THEM PUT HIM IN THE SLAVE POUND!
OKAY, RANGER! YOUR PET'S HAD IT! THE LAW'S TAKING CHARGE OF HIM, RIGHT NOW!
SEE HERE, OFFICER! CAN'T WE TALK THIS OVER?
THAT RANGER SHOULD BE FINED FOR TURNING THAT WILD ANIMAL LOOSE ON THE STREETS!
WITH SUDDEN RESOLVE, SULTIN SEIZES KAMANDI AND BOLTS FROM THE SCENE!
HALT--! COME BACK!
HANG ON, KAMANDI! MY DUNE-CYCLE IS PARKED CLOSE BY!
I-I'M SORRY ABOUT ALL THIS, SULTIN!
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
OUT OF TOWN--! --TO A SPOT WHERE YOU CAN MAKE A RUN FOR IT! IT'S YOUR ONLY CHANCE, KAMANDI!
CONTINUED ON 24TH PAGE FOLLOWING

The time: The 1950's. The scene: The offices of the Prize Comics Group, where Joe Simon & Jack Kirby are revolutionizing the comic book industry by creating the first mystery and love comic books—Black Magic, Young Love, and Young Romance.

The time: 1973. The scene: The offices of National Periodical Publications, where Joe Simon is creating a host of new titles as well as revitalizing the mystery and love titles. Jack Kirby, of course, has already unleashed a bunch of revolutionary new books like Kamandi and The Demon. Let's take a peek at what's coming up from these pioneers.

The first new title to come your way will be PREZ!, a Joe Simon creation (with art by Jerry Grandinetti & Craig Flessel), which will hit the stands arounds May 17th. PREZ! is the story of a young boy named Prez Rickard and his career as the first teen president of the U.S.A. This far-out fantasy will be set a few years in the future when the 18-year-olds' votes will change the scope of the politics of the nation. And Prez is no puppet of the political bosses either! All you have to do to find that out is read the first issue and watch him dispose of the most powerful and unusual political boss to pop up in years.

A host of wild supporting characters are in PREZ! also. Like Eagle Free, the Indian boy who becomes the chief of the F.B.I. and runs it out of a new headquarters. There's more, but you can read the rest in PREZ #1 when it comes to your favorite newsstand or candy store in a few weeks. You remember how quickly SHAZAM #1 sold out, so RESERVE a copy at your store now! And if you think these concepts are wild, wait till you see the new ones that are coming up in the next few issues!

Coming your way next month is the original mystery comic book—Black Magic! Joe Simon is editing a new Black Magic comic which will reprint the very first mystery stories ever put into comic book form. A lot of the material that will be reprinted is classic Simon & Kirby.

Joe's also working on two original love comics now. Young Love and Young Romance will be edited by him starting in the next few months. You can count on him to create something new in love stories and features.

The next project from these two pioneers is a collaboration. After twenty years of working independently, they got together (although Jack lives in California and Joe in New York) to produce a special issue of "The Sandman". Back in the forties, one of National's first super-heroes was a costumed crime-fighter named The Sandman, who was drawn by Craig Flessel (remember him from PREZ?). About two years after the strip began, Simon & Kirby took it over and changed all the concepts involved. One of their original Sandman stories can be found in the current issue of Wanted (#9, the September issue). A few years later, after Simon & Kirby had left National, the character faded into limbo. Now he is coming back in a special. The script is by Joe Simon, the art by Jack Kirby with an assist by Mike Royer. It's all-new ideas and all-new material. You'll see a Sandman that's NEVER been seen before.

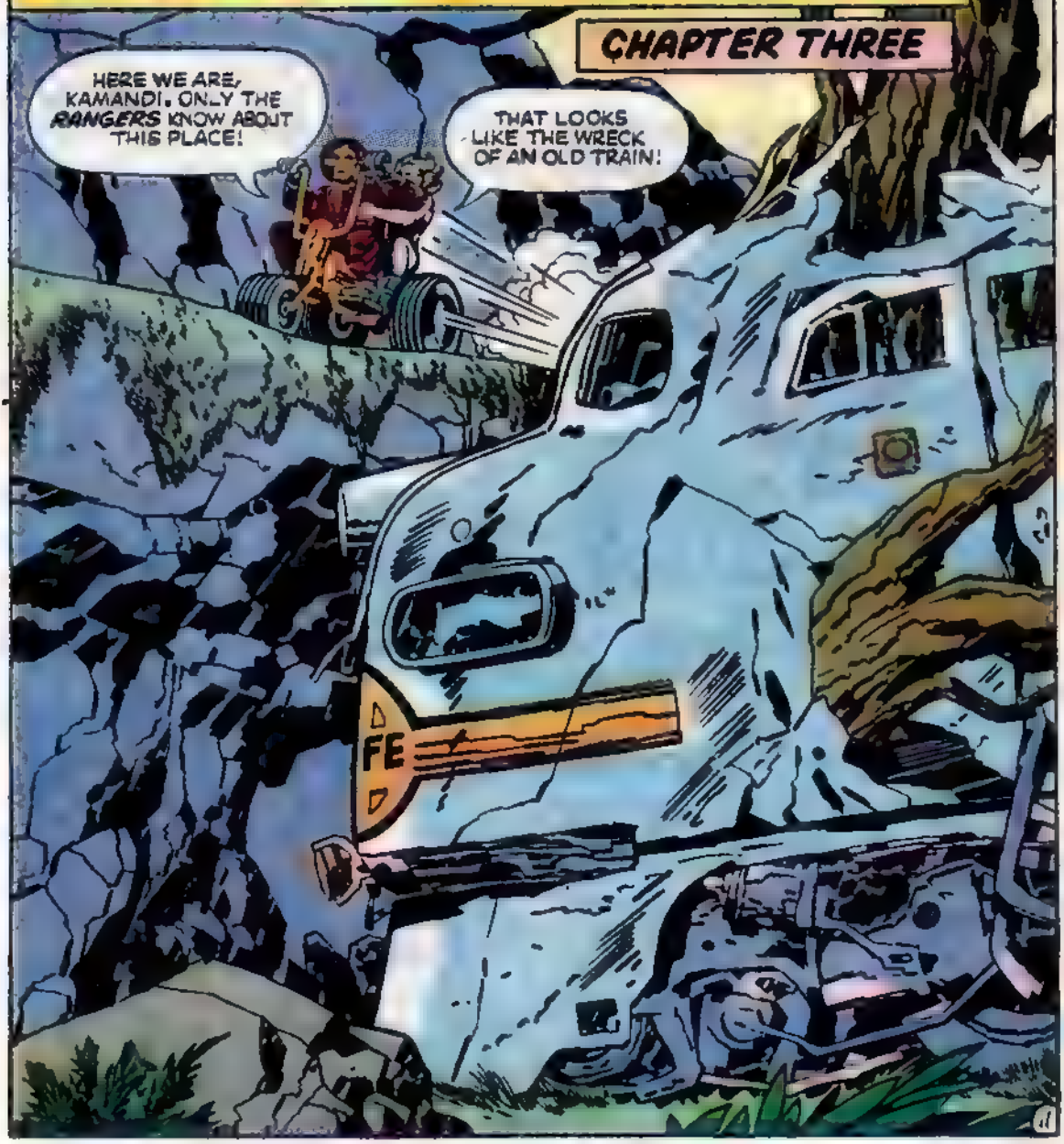
Joe Simon has another mag in the works, but that's still under wraps because the theme is so unique. We'll let you know about it in a month or two.

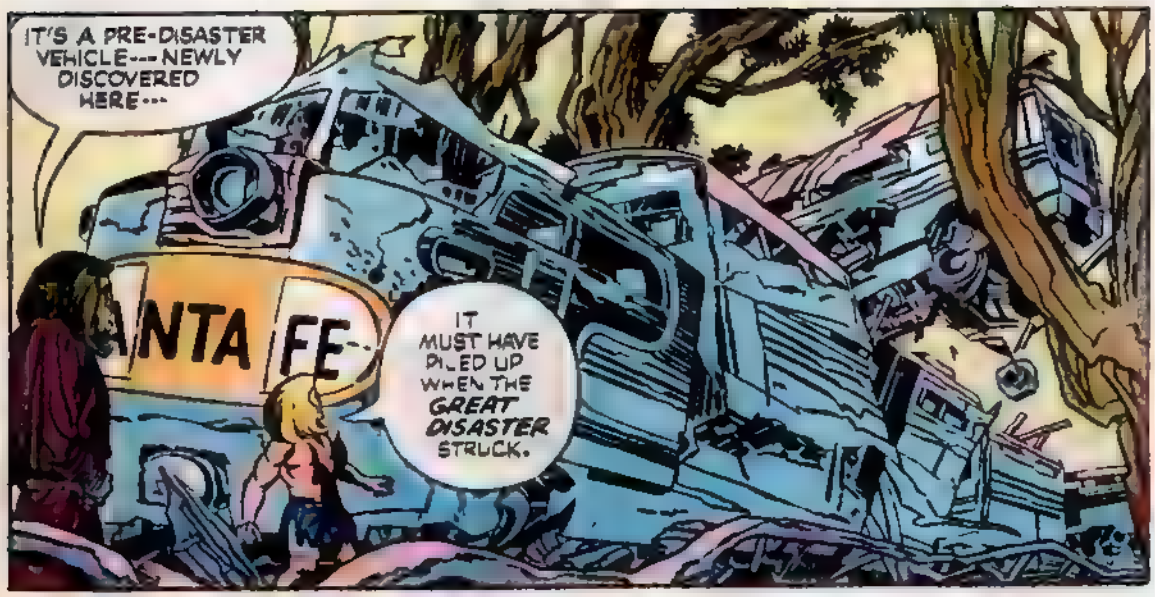
There's much, much more coming from National this summer and we'll keep you posted on it. For instance, next month we'll tell you about the new DC magazine which features cartoons like this:

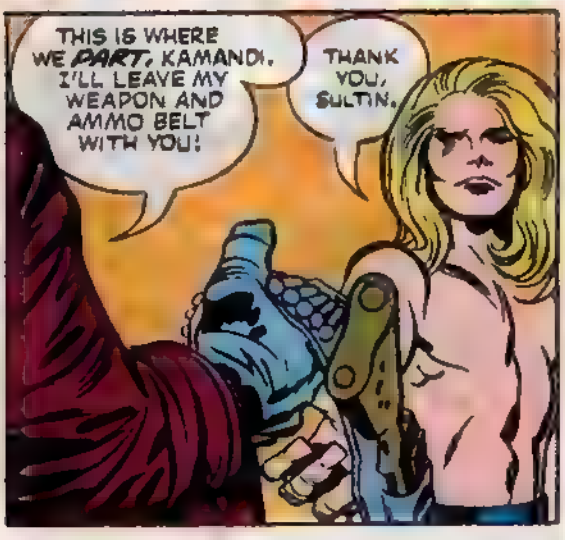
SOMEHOW, SULTIN RESPONDS TO STRANGE AND DISTURBING FEELINGS ABOUT KAMANDI. SOMEHOW, IT SEEMS BETTER TO TURN HIM FREE TO FACE THE DANGERS OF THE WILDERNESS--- THAN A SOCIETY WHICH MISUNDERSTANDS HIM. AS FOR KAMANDI, THE UNCERTAINTIES IN STORE FOR HIM LEAVE HIM POORLY PREPARED FOR THE MOST FANTASTIC ADVENTURE OF ALL!

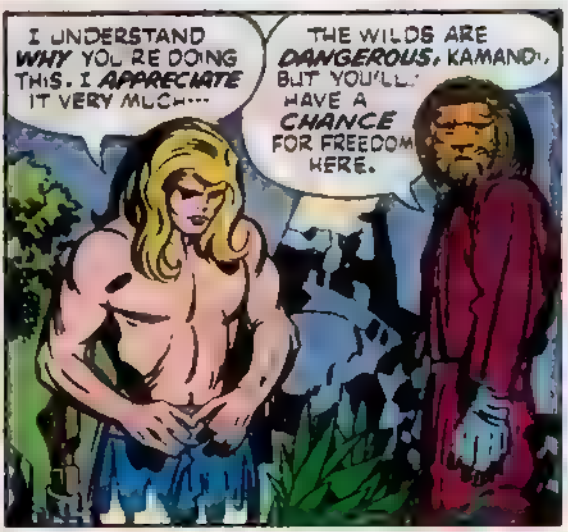
THE RETURN OF BEN BOXER

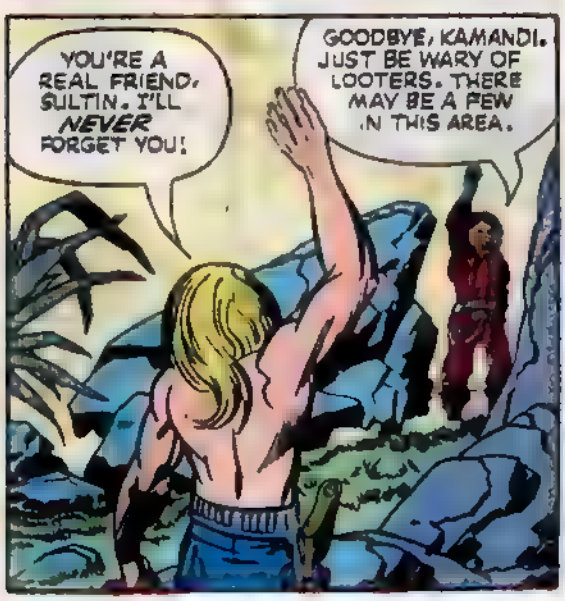
CHAPTER THREE

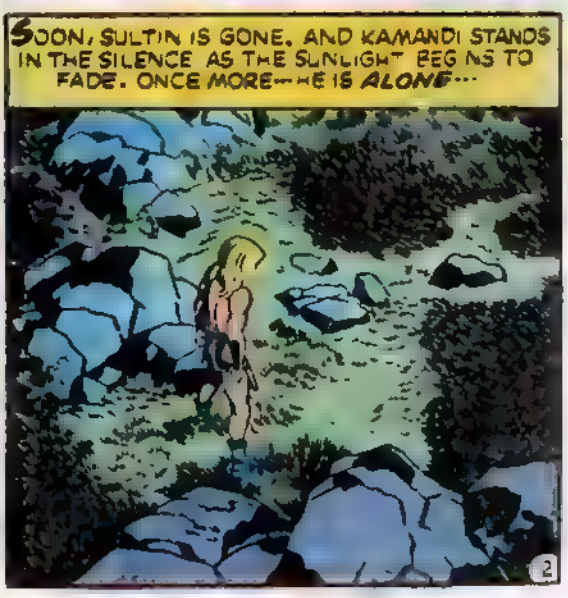


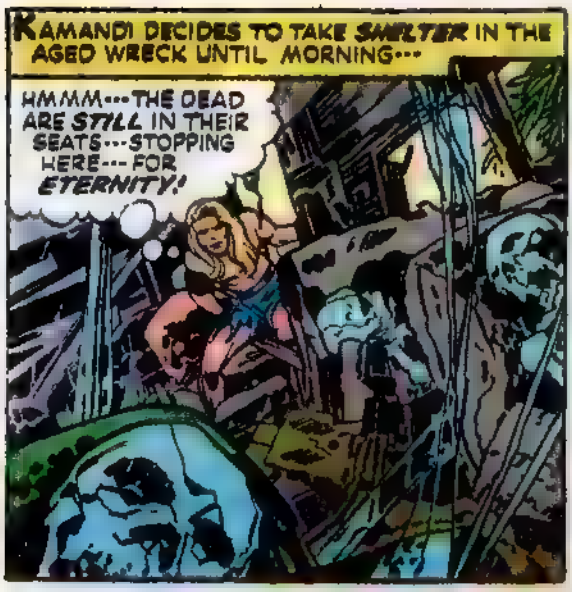

IT'S A PRE-DISASTER VEHICLE---NEWLY DISCOVERED HERE---
NTA FE
IT MUST HAVE PILED UP WHEN THE GREAT DISASTER STRUCK.


THIS IS WHERE WE PART, KAMANDI. I'LL LEAVE MY WEAPON AND AMMO BELT WITH YOU!
THANK YOU, SULTIN.

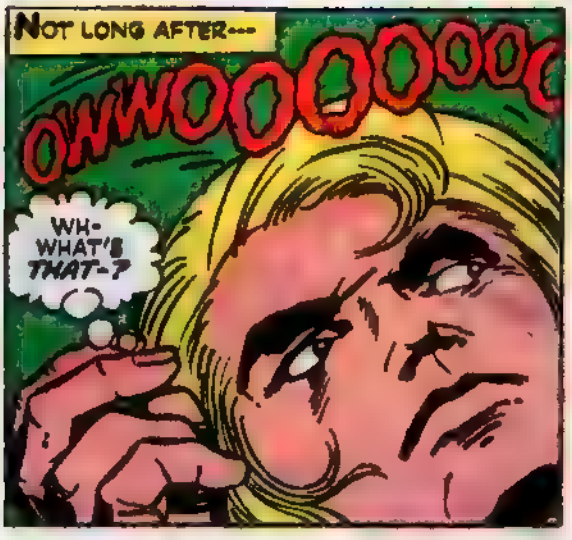

I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU RE DOING THIS. I APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH---
THE WILDS ARE DANGEROUS, KAMANDI, BUT YOU'LL HAVE A CHANCE FOR FREEDOM HERE.

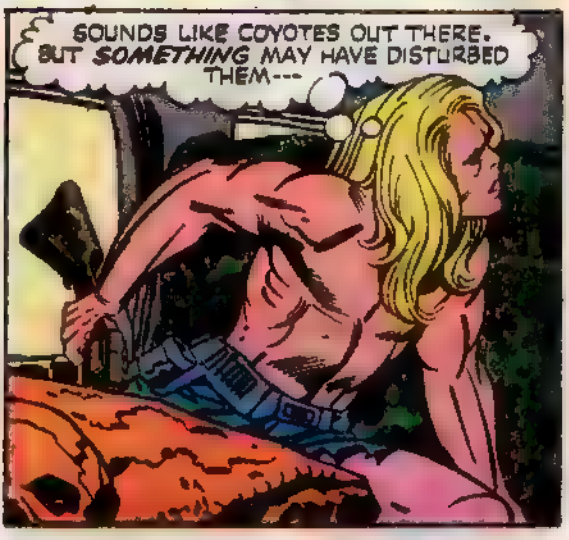

YOU'RE A REAL FRIEND, SULTIN. I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!
GOODBYE, KAMANDI. JUST BE WARY OF LOOTERS. THERE MAY BE A FEW IN THIS AREA.


SOON, SULTIN IS GONE. AND KAMANDI STANDS IN THE SILENCE AS THE SUNLIGHT BEGINS TO FADE. ONCE MORE--HE IS ALONE---
2


KAMANDI DECIDES TO TAKE SHELTER IN THE AGED WRECK UNTIL MORNING···
HMMM···THE DEAD ARE STILL IN THEIR SEATS···STOPPING HERE··· FOR ETERNITY!

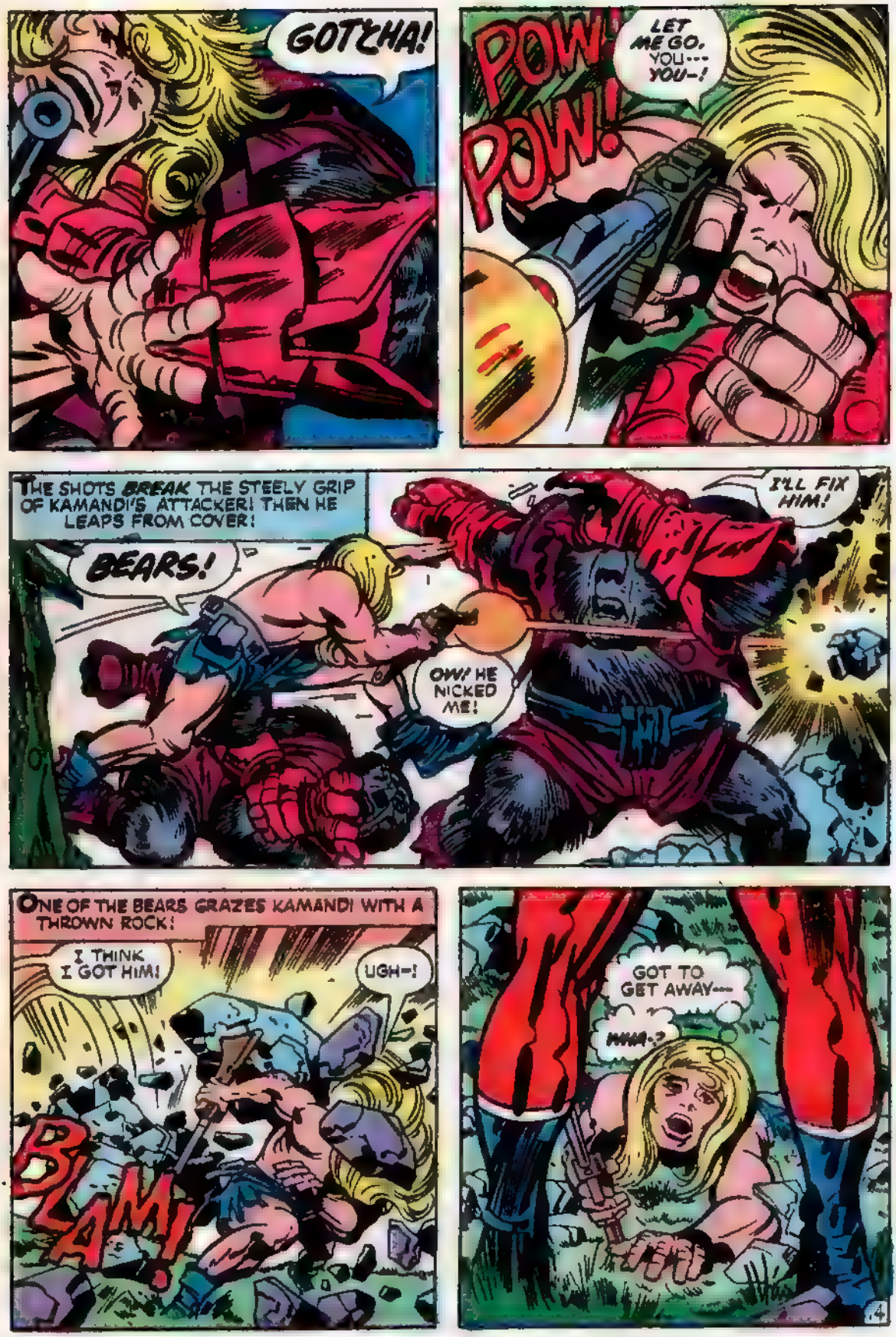
THE SECRETS OF THEIR WORLD AND THE NATURE OF THE GREAT DISASTER SLEEPS WITH THEM···
HO HUM···I THINK I'LL GRAB A LITTLE SHUT-EYE, MYSELF.


NOT LONG AFTER···
OWWOOOOOO
WH-WHAT'S THAT-?


SOUNDS LIKE COYOTES OUT THERE. BUT SOMETHING MAY HAVE DISTURBED THEM···

I'D BETTER NOT TAKE ANY CHANCES. IN THIS PLACE IT WOULD BE WISE TO LOOK AROUND···

OH-OH! I DETECT TROUBLE MOVING OUT THERE···!
3


GOT'CHA!
POW! POW!
LET ME GO, YOU--- YOU--!
THE SHOTS BREAK THE STEELY GRIP OF KAMANDI'S ATTACKER! THEN HE LEAPS FROM COVER!
BEARS!
I'LL FIX HIM!
OW! HE NICKED ME!
ONE OF THE BEARS GRAZES KAMANDI WITH A THROWN ROCK!
I THINK I GOT HIM!
UGH--!
BLAM!
GOT TO GET AWAY---
MMM--?
4

DAZED AND FRIGHTENED, KAMANDI STARES AT THE FIGURE CONFRONTING HIM.
NO···NO···
THEN, THE FAMILIARITY OF IT BECOMES MORE APPARENT···
I-IT CAN'T BE···
IT IS! IT IS!! BEN!···
BEN BOXER! ···AND RENZI! HOW DID YOU TWO GET HERE?
HOLD IT, FRIEND!
HERE THEY COME, BEN!
YOUR ATTACKERS ARE HEADING THIS WAY, KAMAND THEY LOOK BIG AND NASTY!
A FEW GOOD SHOTS WILL···
READY TO FISSION, BEN!
BEFORE KAMANDI CAN ACT, HIS FRIENDS PRESS THE DISCS ABOVE THEIR HEARTS AND···
FWOM!
CREATURES OF MAN'S ADAPTATION TO RADIATION, BEN AND RENZI USE A BIOLOGICAL PROCESS SIMILAR TO ATOMIC FISSION TO CHANGE THEIR BODIES INTO STEEL-LIKE ARMOR···
WE'RE READY FOR THEM.
HOLD YOUR FIRE, KAMANDI.
CONTINUED ON 35TH PAGE FOLLOWING
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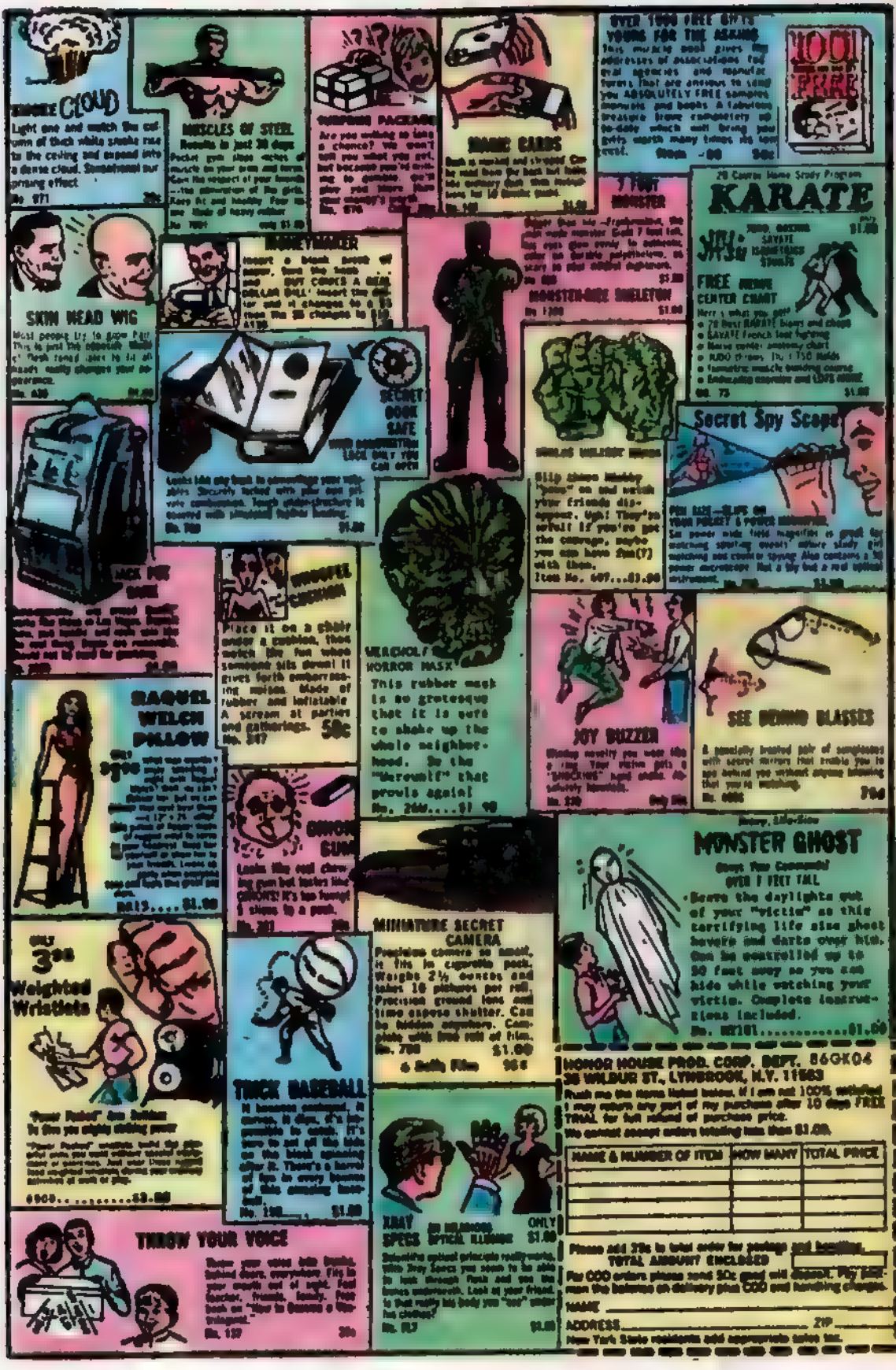
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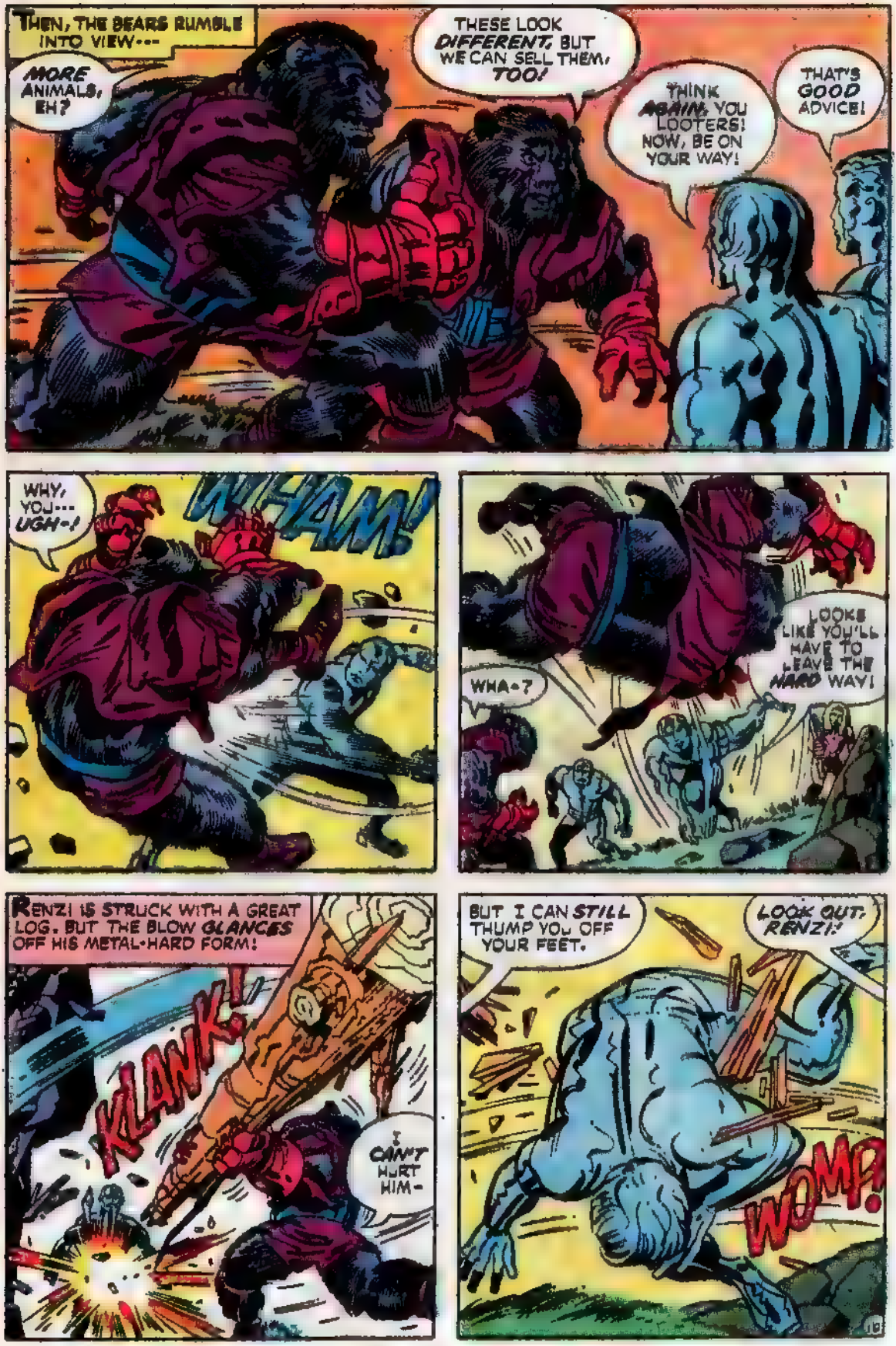
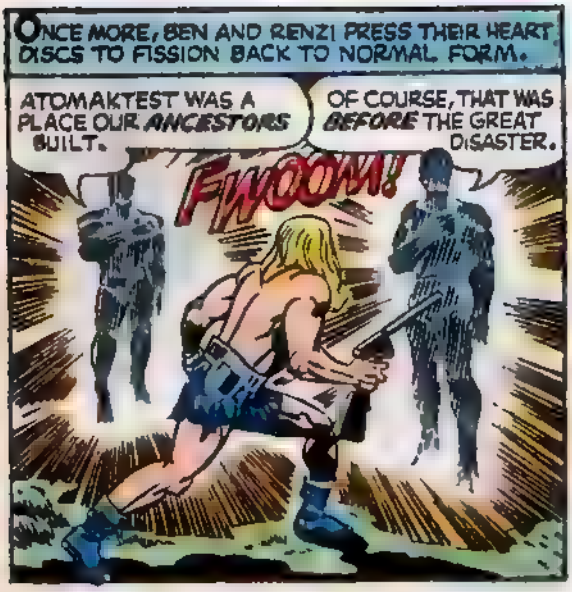
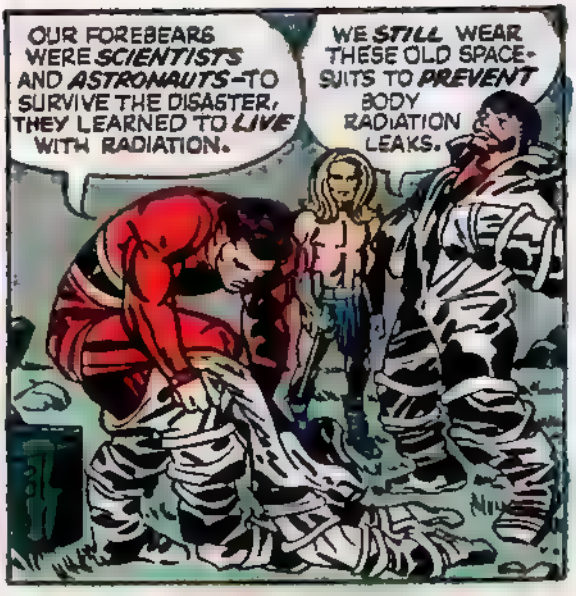
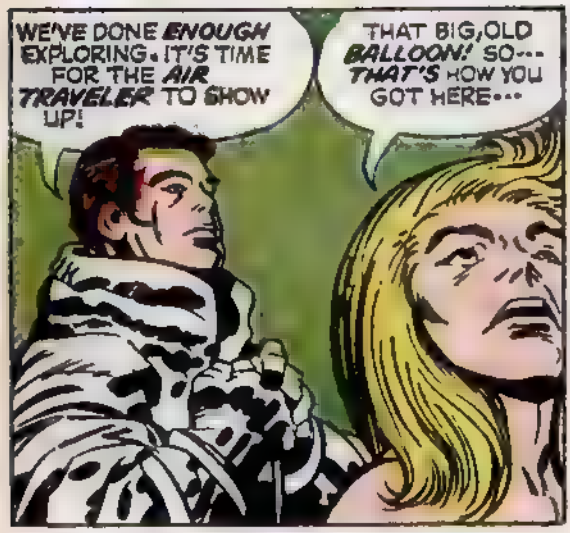
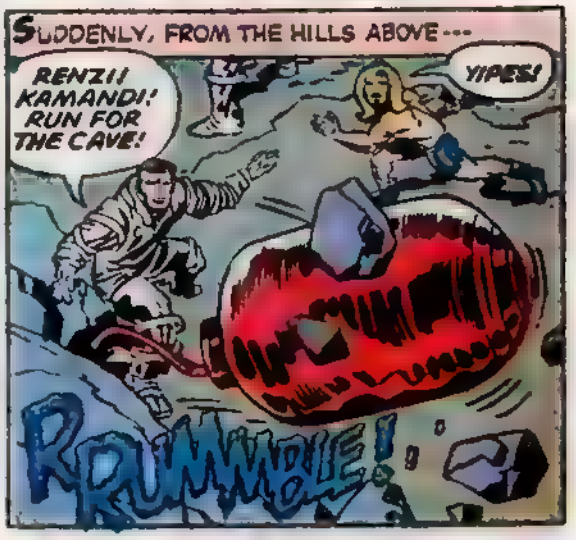

THEN, THE BEARS RUMBLE INTO VIEW---
MORE ANIMALS, EH?
THESE LOOK DIFFERENT, BUT WE CAN SELL THEM, TOO!
THINK AGAIN, YOU LOOTERS! NOW, BE ON YOUR WAY!
THAT'S GOOD ADVICE!
WHY, YOU--- UGH-!
WHAM!
WHA-?
LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE THE HARD WAY!
RENZI IS STRUCK WITH A GREAT LOG. BUT THE BLOW GLANCES OFF HIS METAL-HARD FORM!
KLANK!
I CAN'T HURT HIM-
BUT I CAN STILL THUMP YOU OFF YOUR FEET.
LOOK OUT, RENZI!
WOMP!

IT'S TOO LATE FOR YOUR FRIEND TO HELP YOU! I'M GOING TO---!
I'M FASTER THAN YOU THINK!
YEEOOW! HE'S LIFTING ME OFF THE GROUND!
THIS SHOULD PROVE IT!
---AND, PUTTING YOU DOWN AGAIN! ---HARD!
CRASH!
THE JOB'S DONE! OUR VISITORS ARE ASLEEP! IT'S TIME TO LEAVE.
YOU'RE RIGHT, BEN.
HOLD ON, YOU TWO! WE'VE GOT A LOT TO TALK ABOUT.
THERE'S NOT MUCH TO TELL, KAMANDI. WE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD. SO WE CONTINUED ON OUR WAY---
IN A SKIRMISH BETWEEN OUR GORILLA CAPTORS AND TIGERS ---WE MADE OUR ESCAPE!
BEN AND RENZI LEAD KAMANDI TO THE OPENING OF A GREAT, ABANDONED CAVE SITE.
WE CAME HERE AND DISCOVERED ---THIS!
IT COULD BE THE VERY SITE OF ANCIENT ATOMAKTEST!
17


ONCE MORE, BEN AND RENZI PRESS THEIR HEART DISCS TO FISSION BACK TO NORMAL FORM.
ATOMAKTEST WAS A PLACE OUR ANCESTORS BUILT.
OF COURSE, THAT WAS BEFORE THE GREAT DISASTER.
FWOOM!

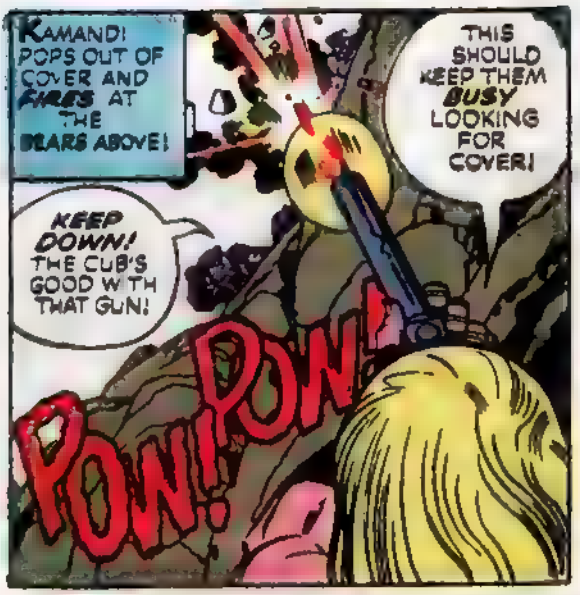

OUR FOREBEARS WERE SCIENTISTS AND ASTRONAUTS—TO SURVIVE THE DISASTER, THEY LEARNED TO LIVE WITH RADIATION.
WE STILL WEAR THESE OLD SPACE-SUITS TO PREVENT BODY RADIATION LEAKS.

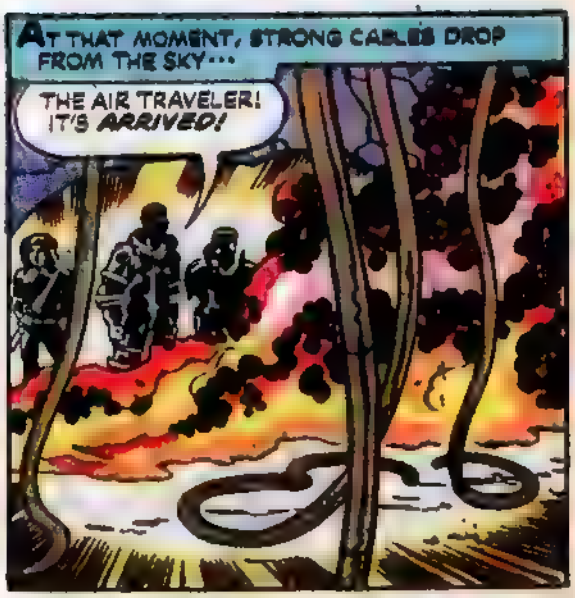

WE'VE DONE ENOUGH EXPLORING. IT'S TIME FOR THE AIR TRAVELER TO SHOW UP!
THAT BIG, OLD BALLOON! SO--- THAT'S HOW YOU GOT HERE---

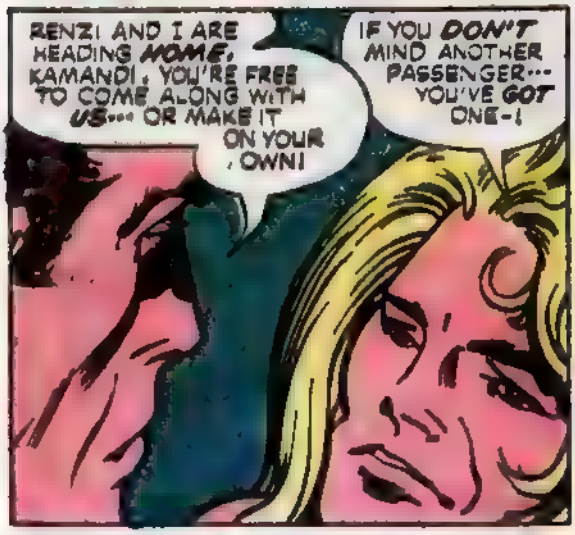

SUDDENLY, FROM THE HILLS ABOVE---
RENZI! KAMANDI! RUN FOR THE CAVE!
YIPES!
RRUMMBLE!

I THINK THE SLEEPING BEARS HAVE COME TO LIFE!
BLAM!

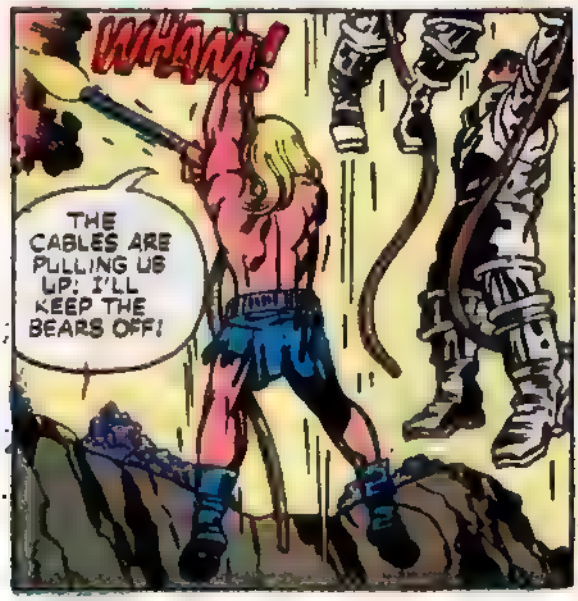
I SEE THEM! THEY'RE UP ON THE HILL--- AND THEY MAY HAVE MORE FIRE-BOMBS!
THIS WILL MAKE OUR DEPARTURE A PRETTY TIGHT SQUEEZE!
18

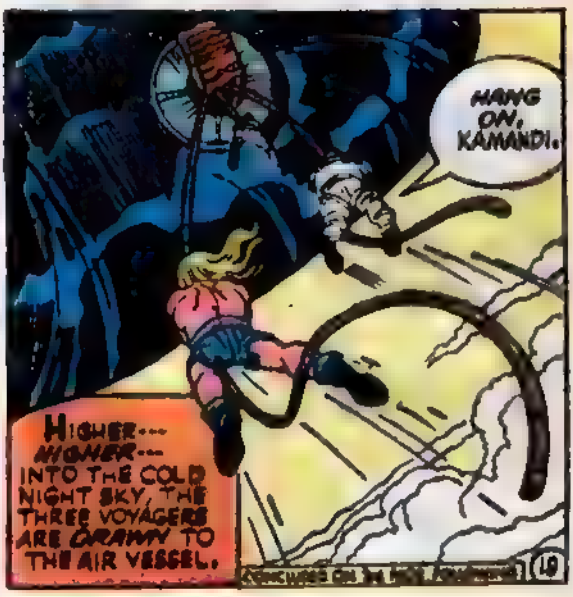

KAMANDI POPS OUT OF COVER AND FIRES AT THE BEARS ABOVE!
THIS SHOULD KEEP THEM BUSY LOOKING FOR COVER!
KEEP DOWN! THE CUB'S GOOD WITH THAT GUN!
POW! POW!


AT THAT MOMENT, STRONG CABLES DROP FROM THE SKY...
THE AIR TRAVELER! IT'S ARRIVED!


RENZI AND I ARE HEADING HOME, KAMANDI. YOU'RE FREE TO COME ALONG WITH US... OR MAKE IT ON YOUR OWN!
IF YOU DON'T MIND ANOTHER PASSENGER... YOU'VE GOT ONE-!

THEN, LET'S GO! THE FIRE'S DYING DOWN!
LEAD ON, RENZI!


WHAM!
THE CABLES ARE PULLING US UP; I'LL KEEP THE BEARS OFF!


HANG ON, KAMANDI.
HIGHER... HIGHER... INTO THE COLD NIGHT SKY, THE THREE VOYAGERS ARE GRAWN TO THE AIR VESSEL.

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D. Roberts

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P. Williams

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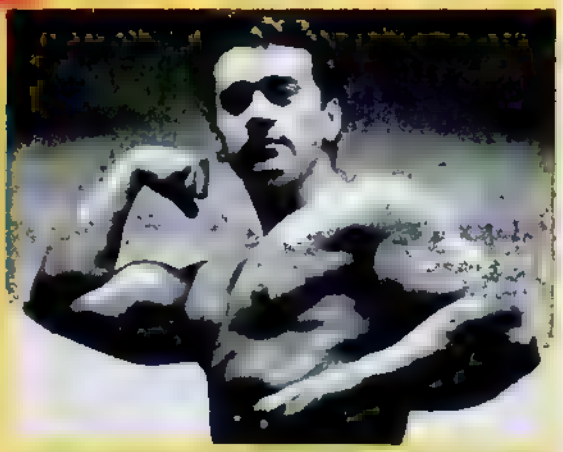
M. Robinson



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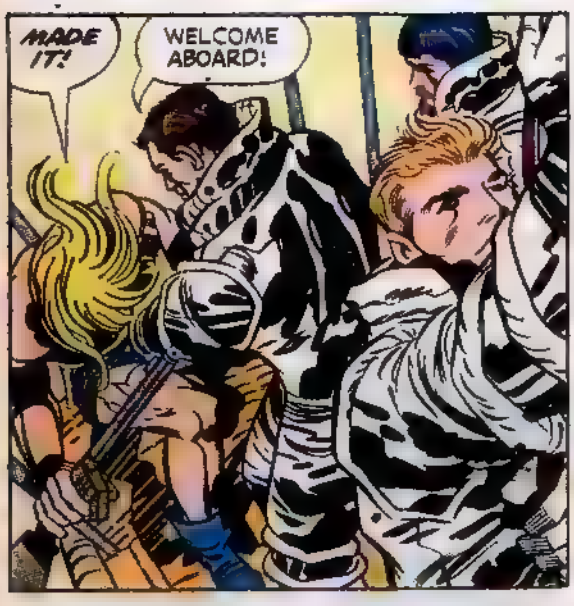
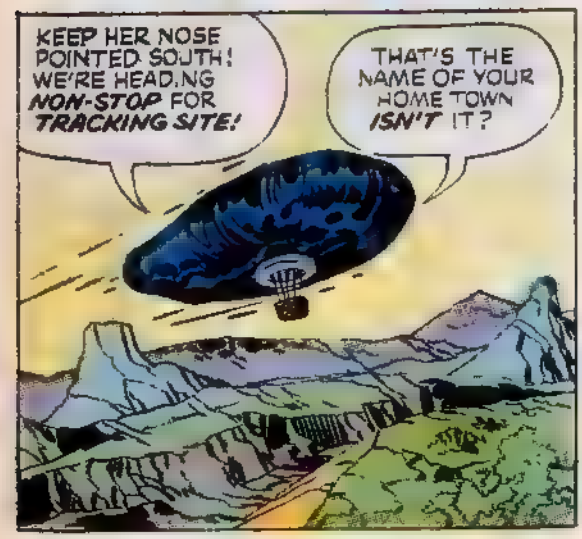
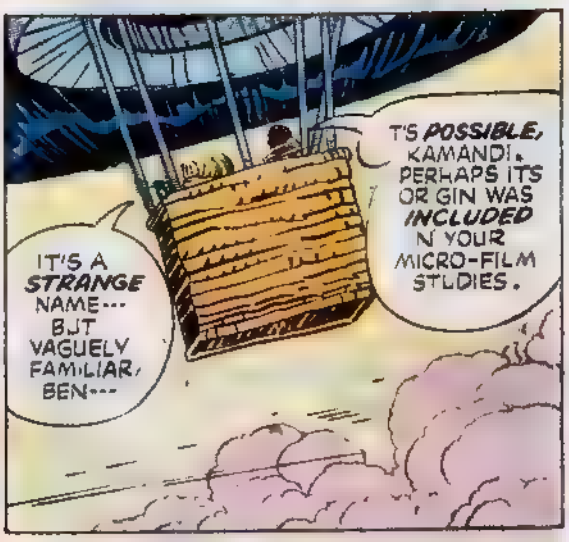
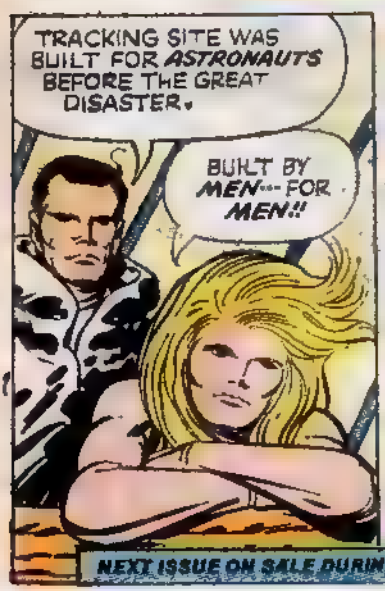
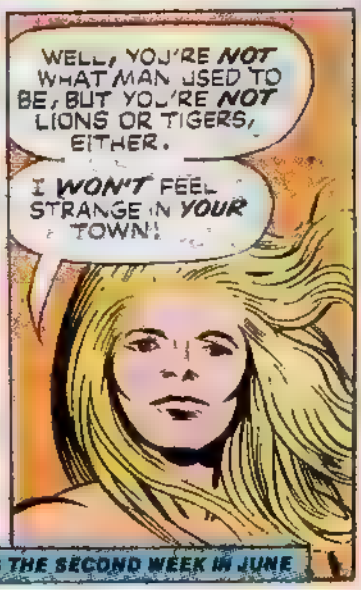





IT'S A STRANGE NAME··· BUT VAGUELY FAMILIAR, BEN···
IT'S POSSIBLE, KAMANDI. PERHAPS ITS ORIGIN WAS INCLUDED IN YOUR MICRO-FILM STUDIES.





NEXT ISSUE ON SALE DURING THE SECOND WEEK IN JUNE

NOT TRUE, KAMANDI! NOT TRUE, READERS!

WAIT TILL YOU SEE TRACKING SITE!

THE TIME CAPSULE

By Steve Sherman

X-404

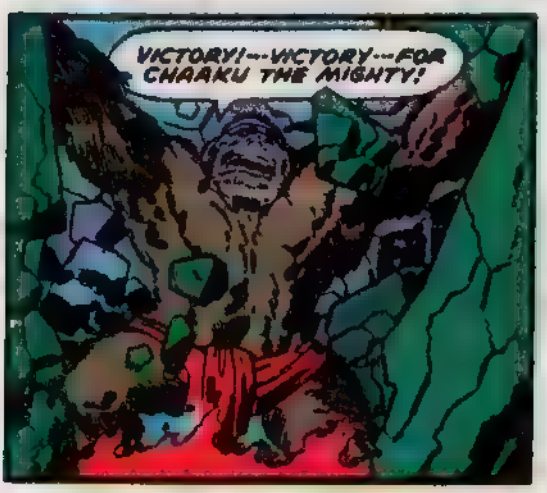
Dear Jack,

Kamandi is just fantastic! Your comics are among the all-time best to be sold, in my opinion. I'll forego the usual comments on your and Mike Royer's titanic talent, and instead offer a suggestion. Please eliminate, or at least extend, your chapters. In some cases, you'll get the action really moving and on the next page, you put chapter three and a boldly lettered sub-title for it. Then you have to re-create the mood and flow of the scene. Perhaps each issue could be a chapter in the chronicles of Kamandi.

Clayton Moore, San Diego, Ca.

Actually Clayton, each issue of this magazine is a further chapter in the saga of Kamandi. Jack's use of the sub-chapter headings has, primarily, been an experimentation on his part. In trying to do a complete story in each issue, he's found that by dividing the book up, it's easier to move the story along with narration and let the art and dialogue provide the needed action and characterization. It also allows for a greater number of full page splash panels.

* * * * *



* * * * *

Dear Jack and Mike,

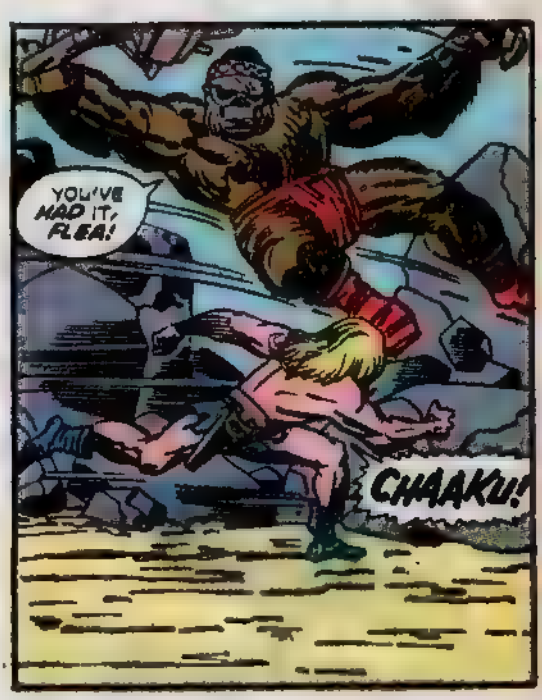
Just finished reading KAMANDI #3 and found it intriguing. The letters column was of special interest. So many readers have found striking similarities between Kamandi and Planet of the Apes, but what they have failed to realize is that Pierre Boulle lifted *his* socio-political satire from "A Voyage To The Country Of The Houyhnhnms", the last part of Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels!*

Anyway, the stories are *all* good and the inking and layouts are very exciting.

Michael Part, N. Hollywood, Ca.

Thanks Mike. Fewer and fewer of the letters we receive now even mention the "Apes" films. I would guess that this is because Kamandi is now at the point where his premise has been established and our readers are finding out that his adventures and his world are uniquely his own.

* * * * *



* * * * *

Dear Mr. Kirby,

Before I begin, let me congratulate you on KAMANDI. The magazine offers many views into a subject never really talked about seriously; the World After. I salute you and look forward heartily to Kamandi's arrival at Tracking Site.

But now, to business. Seeing that Kamandi's voyages are taking him near the West Coast, I think I should bring to your attention a little matter concerning California. Geologists say that sometime before the century is out, California is going to experience another giant earthquake (the "Great Shocks").

Several people have already speculated, and with an air of truth, that California will someday split up and break off. Parts will fall into the sea and others will form islands. I see no islands on the West Coast (consulting the map in KAMANDI #1). But before the Last Boy on Earth sees the Pacific, I would suggest that Mr. Kirby does. Yes sir, at least see the Pacific as it would be in about 97 years, and see the California Archipelago, as I do.

Michael Wolff, Elgin, Texas

Sure, sure. You can talk, Mike. You're sitting there in Texas, while we're waiting it out here in California. In all probability though, it might be that the last of the Great Shocks are yet to occur in Kamandi's time. 97 years still gives Jack an opportunity to waterproof his drawing board.

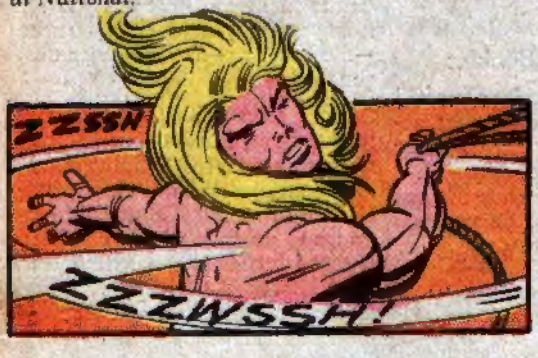
* * * * *

Dear Jack,

I've enjoyed the three issues of Kamandi so far, mainly because of the great layout and artwork. The final published product can be no better than the efforts of your inker. And for the first time since the days of the Boy Commandos (I can only assume that you inked your own work then), have you come up with an inker who has studied your style—especially the use of spot blacks—and whose finished product is as dynamic as your pencils are intended to be. You've come up with a great find in Mike Royer (who also did good work for Paul Norris and Russ Manning). May he never leave your side.

Jack H. Bender,
Editorial Cartoonist
Waterloo Daily Courier

Don't worry, Mr. Bender. Mike's future is assured, not only because of his great inking and lettering, but he also has a set of 8X10 photos of Jack he took at a convention which he keeps threatening to publish. The Boy Commando stories were inked by Joe Simon, Jack's partner for a good many years and one of comicdom's greats, who is now an editor here at National.



Dear Jack,

Some people write to you saying that in your lettercols all you ever print are letters that say how great your mags are. Well, I don't see how you can get bad letters when you produce classics like KAMANDI #3. The gorillas, Chaaku, Ben Boxer, Renzi, and the dead Las Vegas all combined to produce a truly classic tale. The "Rock-Buster" (where do you get those names?) was a very interesting foe.

More good news! KAMANDI is now monthly! Now we can look forward to the adventures of the last boy on earth every month! Next month's "Devil's Arena" sounds like a great story. It seems that each issue is better than the last.

One question—Is there a time limit on how long Ben and Renzi can stay in their humanoid forms?

Tim Oswald, Tacoma, Wash.

This page is being written the day issue four of KAMANDI goes on sale, Tim. Next issue's letter column will tell how everyone reacted to "The Devil's Arena" Ben and the rest of the "Nuclear People" can retain their human form indefinitely, since that is their true form. They have adapted their bodies to the radiation for protection, and by "fissioning" they can change their bodies to the steel-hard figures you've seen in the past few issues.

We're sure to get comments and questions on this issue of Kamandi, and we're sure you wouldn't want yours left out. So send those cards, letters and life-rafts to: THE TIME CAPSULE, P.O. BOX 336, NEWBURY PARK, CA. 91320. Remember, when the next quake comes, Newbury Park will be the first to go—so get those letters in now!

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DC
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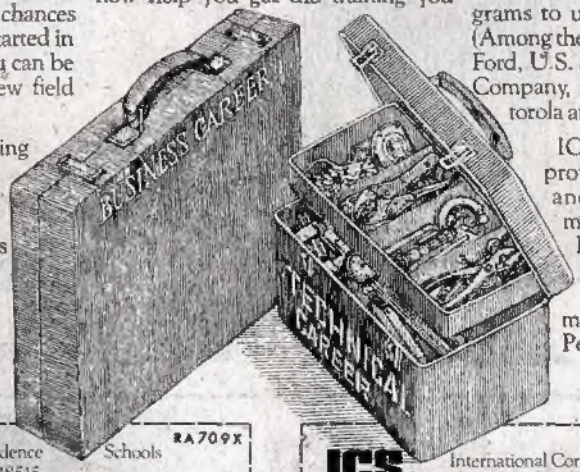

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- ☐ Communications, Broadcasting Technician
- ☐ Computer Servicing
- ☐ Diesel, Gas Mechanic
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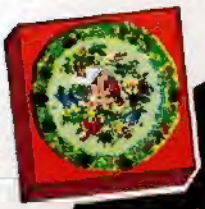

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